

## Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SAJ-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 ACDA-10

SAB-01 AID-05 /113 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:MHVAN ORDER  
APPROVED BY NEA/P:MHVAN ORDER  
S/PRS - MR. FUNSETH (INFO)  
H - MR. FLATEN (INFO)  
EUR/P - MR. JERABEK  
IO/P - MR. BLACHLY  
NEA/ARN - MR. CAROLAN  
AF/P - MRS. RUSSELL

----- 043986

R 232055Z JUL 75  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
USMISSION GENEVA  
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN  
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM  
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM  
AMEMBASSY MANAMA  
AMEMBASSY TUNIS  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI  
AMEMBASSY RABAT  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
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AMEMBASSY ROME  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
USMISSION NATO  
AMEMBASSY SANA

USINT BAGHDAD  
AMEMBASSY DOHA  
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI  
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS  
USCINCEUR

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL  
CINCEUR FOR POLAD

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS  
FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING JULY 23:

Q. WHAT'S YOUR REACTION TO PRESIDENT SADAT'S ANNOUNCEMENT  
THAT THE UN PEACE FORCE CAN STAY LONGER FOR THREE MONTHS --  
THE MANDATE HAS BEEN RENEWED FOR THREE MONTHS.

A. I HAVE SEEN A COUPLE OF TICKERS ON THIS JUST BEFORE I  
CAME DOWN. I HAVEN'T GOT IT CONFIRMED. THE ACTION ON  
THIS, OBVIOUSLY, WILL BE UP IN NEW YORK IN THE SECURITY  
COUNCIL. AND WE'VE EXPRESSED DURING THE PAST WEEK OUR HOPE  
THAT THIS PROBLEM WOULD BE RESOLVED SO THAT THE UNITED  
NATIONS FORCE COULD CONTINUE TO REMAIN IN THE SINAI. BUT  
I'VE JUST SEEN THE TICKERS AND THAT'S ALL, AND I CAN'T CON-  
FIRM ANYTHING YET. WE'RE VERY HOPEFUL, AS I'VE BEEN  
SAYING, THAT IT WILL BE RESOLVED.

Q. WAS IT THE PRESIDENT'S INITIATIVE, SETTING UP THE

MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR DINITZ THIS MORNING?  
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A. NO. AS I SAID TO YOU YESTERDAY, THE SECRETARY WAS  
WAITING FOR MORE MATERIAL FROM AMBASSADOR EILTS, AND HE  
EXPECTED OR HOPED TO BE MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR DINITZ,  
PROBABLY WITHIN THE NEXT 24 HOURS. AMBASSADOR DINITZ MET  
WITH THE SECRETARY AT THE WHITE HOUSE AT 11:15. I CHECKED  
AT ABOUT 12:35-12:40 AND THE MEETING WAS STILL GOING ON  
IN SECRETARY KISSINGER'S OFFICE OVER THERE.

Q. IT WAS NOT YOUR UNDERSTANDING THAT AMBASSADOR DINITZ  
WAS ALSO MEETING WITH PRESIDENT FORD?

A. THAT WAS NOT MY UNDERSTANDING. I WOULDN'T RULE IT OUT.  
MAYBE WHILE HE'S OVER THERE HE MAY SEE THE PRESIDENT. I

JUST DON'T KNOW. BUT THE MEETING WAS SCHEDULED WITH DR. KISSINGER AT THE WHITE HOUSE. AND THE SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT THIS MORNING -- AS WE ALL KNOW, IT'S USUALLY AROUND 9:15; -- BUT IT WAS HELD LATER BECAUSE OF THE PRESIDENT'S SCHEDULE. AND I THINK THE SECRETARY WENT IN AROUND 10:30 - 10:45 TO HAVE HIS REGULAR MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT. SO, I THINK, FOR LOGISTICAL PURPOSES THE MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR DINITZ WAS OVER THERE.

Q. DOES THE SECRETARY SHARE THE PRESIDENT'S VIEWS, AS HE STATED THIS MORNING, THAT THE INTERIM, QUOTE "MIGHT NOT WORK" UNQUOTE, AND THAT SOME VERY SERIOUS ISSUES STILL REMAIN TO BE RESOLVED?

A. I CAN'T ANSWER YOU SPECIFICALLY BECAUSE I WAS UNAWARE OF THIS VIEW STATED BY THE PRESIDENT.

THERE ARE SOME PROBLEMS THAT REMAIN, AS UNDER SECRETARY SISCO INDICATED ON TELEVISION THIS MORNING. THERE'S A TEXT OF THIS INTERVIEW FOR YOU, FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVEN'T SEEN IT. BUT WE CONTINUE TO FEEL THAT PROGRESS IS BEING MADE, AND WE REMAIN HOPEFUL THAT THERE WILL BE AN AGREEMENT.

Q. HAS HE GOT THE EGYPTIAN REPLY TO THE NEW PROPOSALS THAT AMBASSADOR EILTS BROUGHT WITH HIM OVER THE WEEKEND TO CAIRO?

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A. HE OBVIOUSLY HAS EGYPTIAN VIEWS THAT HE WILL BE PASSING ON TO AMBASSADOR DINITZ. I DON'T KNOW THE DETAILS OF WHAT IT IS.

Q. HAS A COMPROMISE BEEN WORKED OUT WITH SENATOR CASE FOR DELIVERY OF SIX MISSILE BATTERIES WITH APPROXIMATELY --

WELL, 150 MILLION -- IN THE NEXT YEAR AND A HALF?

A. ON THAT WE'RE IN TOUCH WITH THE JORDANIAN GOVERNMENT. WE'RE IN TOUCH WITH THE CONGRESS -- PRIMARILY -- AS I MENTIONED YESTERDAY, WITH THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE -- ON THIS SUBJECT. WE'RE DISCUSSING THE JORDANIAN REACTION, WHICH WE HAVE ALL READ ABOUT, WITH THE CONGRESS. WE'RE CONSULTING WITH THEM TODAY. AND, BEYOND THAT, I JUST HAVE TO LEAVE IT WHERE WE WERE YESTERDAY, BECAUSE WE'RE STILL CONSULTING, THAT IS, THE ADMINISTRATION IS TRYING TO FIND A SATISFACTORY SOLUTION TO THIS QUESTION SO THAT WE CAN CARRY OUT OUR COMMITMENT TO JORDAN AND ALSO MEET CONGRESSIONAL CONCERNS. BUT CONSULTATION IS STILL GOING ON RIGHT NOW.

Q. WHO IS HANDLING NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE STATE DEPARTMENT

-- ROY ATHERTON, MR. SISCO -- WITH THE CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS -- ON THIS HAWK DEAL?

A. ROY ATHERTON, AS WE ALL KNOW, HAS BEEN DOING A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF TESTIFYING ON THIS SUBJECT AND HAVING INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS WITH THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE MEMBERS -- THOSE INTERESTED ONES -- AND WITH MEMBERS OF THE STAFF. AMBASSADOR PICKERING IS ALSO STILL HERE. I DO NOT KNOW SPECIFICALLY WHETHER TOM IS UP THERE TODAY WITH ATHERTON OR NOT, BUT YOU CAN BE SURE THAT UNDER SECRETARY SISCO IS INVOLVED IN THIS ALSO. BUT I CAN'T GIVE YOU THE EXACT TEMPERATURE AND DETAILS.

Q. HAS THE SECRETARY OF STATE GOTTEN INVOLVED IN DISCUSSING THIS ISSUE WITH CONGRESSMEN?

A. WELL, THE SECRETARY HAS NOT TESTIFIED BEFORE ANY COM-UNCLASSIFIED

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MITTEES ON THIS SUBJECT RECENTLY, AS YOU KNOW; BUT WHETHER HE HAS BEEN IN TOUCH INFORMALLY ON THIS SUBJECT DURING SOME OF THE MEETINGS, WHEN HE'S HAD CONGRESSMENT AND SENATORS COME DOWN HERE, I DO NOT KNOW. BUT, OBVIOUSLY, HE IS VERY MUCH CONCERNED BY THIS PROBLEM AND, SHALL WE SAY, IS AN ACTIVE PARTICIPANT IN TRYING TO SEE IT RESOLVED.

Q. HAVE YOU FOLLOWED UP THE ARMS DEAL WITH THE GENTLEMEN IN BEIRUT TO FIND OUT, OR ATTEMPT TO FIND OUT, WHERE THE WEAPONS WENT, TO WHOM THEY WERE SOLD?

A. LET ME JUST TELL YOU. I EXERTED, ON ALL OF YOUR BEHALF, ABOUT AS MUCH EFFORT AS I EVER HAVE IN TRYING TO GET THE ANSWERS TO YOUR VERY MANY LEGITIMATE QUESTIONS. AND FOR ONCE WE WERE ABLE TO GET THEM TO YOU I THINK

QUITE PROMPTLY.

I JUST HAVE NOTHING FURTHER TO SAY ON IT. I SAID YESTERDAY THAT WE DID NOT KNOW THE ULTIMATE END USE OF THIS, AND I JUST STAND ON THE ANSWER TO THE QUESTION THAT WE GAVE TO YOU AND POSTED YESTERDAY. I JUST HAVE NOTHING MORE ON IT.

Q. MR. SISCO SAID THE UNITED STATES WOULD BE WILLING TO CONSIDER THE PLACEMENT OF MILITARY TECHNICIANS IN THE SINAI TO MONITOR THE PASSES. SINCE AMBASSADOR DINITZ HAS EXPRESSED NO INTEREST IN HAVING AMERICAN MILITARY PERSONNEL THERE, WTY IS THIS COUNTRY BEING MORE POSITIVE, EVEN IF IT IS ONLY A SLIGHT AMOUNT, ABOUT AMERICAN MILITARY PRESENCE IN THE MIDDLE EAST, THAN THE ISARELIS ARE?

A. AGAIN, I BELIEVE JOE MADE THE POINT THAT FIRST OF ALL,

THERE HAS BEEN NO FORMAL PROPOSAL FROM EITHER SIDE ON THIS QUESTION.

AND THEN HE SAID, IF I RECALL HIS TEXT CORRECTLY, THAT IF SUCH A FORMAL PROPOSAL CAME ABOUT AND IF IT TURNED OUT THAT WE COULD MAKE A CONTRIBUTION HERE, IT MIGHT BE EITHER CIVILIAN OR MILITARY TECHNICIANS. I BELIEVE THAT HE MENTIONED BOTH THERE.

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I THINK THE THING TO REMEMBER HERE, IS THAT WE HAVEN'T HAD ANY PROPOSALS.

WE WILL EXAMINE IT WHEN WE DO GET IT, AND WHETHER IT WOULD TURN OUT TO BE TECHNICIANS WHO WOULD BE MILITARY OR CIVILIAN, WE WILL JUST HAVE TO WAIT AND SEE.

THE ONLY OTHER POINT I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE IS THAT IF SUCH A PROPOSAL IS MADE, AND IF WE FEEL THAT IT WOULD BE IN THE NATIONAL INTEREST TO PARTICIPATE IN SUCH A PROPOSAL, WE WILL BE IN VERY CLOSE TOUCH WITH THE CONGRESS BEFORE ANYTHING IS DONE ON THIS.

Q. WELL, THE POINT I AM TRYING TO MAKE IS THAT WITH REPEATED ISRAELI DISAVOWAL OF ANY DESIRE TO HAVE AN AMERICAN MILITARY PRESENCE THERE, WHY DO WE KEEP IT ALIVE? ARE THE EGYPTIANS ASKING US TO?

A. ON BACKGROUND HERE. IT IS NOT UP TO ME TO INTERPRET WHAT AMBASSADOR DINITZ SAYS, OR ANY OTHER ISRAELI OFFICIAL SAYS. BUT MY OWN INTERPRETATION OF THE COMMENTS TO WHICH YOU ARE REFERRING IS THAT I THINK THAT AMBASSADOR DINITZ IS PROBABLY REFERRING TO AMERICAN COMBAT TROOPS. I THINK THAT PROBABLY IS WHAT IS IN THE

BACK OF HIS MIND. END BACKGROUND.

BUT I REALLY AND TRULY DO NOT THINK I SHOULD BE COMMENTING, CERTAINLY ON THE RECORD, ON THIS.

Q. IS THERE ANY DIFFERENCE BETWEEN "COMBAT" TROOPS AND "MILITARY?" THE MILITARY IS SUPPOSED TO FIGHT?

A. I DO NOT KNOW WHAT MR. SISCO MAY HAVE MEANT BY "MILITARY TECHNICIANS" WHETHER THEY BE IN UNIFORM OR NOT. I THINK -- AND THIS IS ALL SPECULATION AT THIS POINT. THERE HAVE BEEN NO PROPOSALS MADE.

Q. IS THIS THE SORT OF ISSUE YOU THINK THAT MIGHT HAVE TO WAIT FOR THE KISSINGER SHUTTLE TO BE RESOLVED?

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A. I HONESTLY CANNOT ANSWER THAT. I JUST DO NOT KNOW.

THE POINT IS, THERE HAS BEEN NO FORMAL PROPOSAL FROM  
EITHER SIDE ON THIS YET. I JUST DO NOT THINK WE OUGHT TO  
JUMP THE GUN HERE, FRANKLY.

Q. DO YOU KNOW WHO FIRST RAISED THE IDEA OF THE CONCEPT  
OF INTRODUCING AMERICAN TECHNICIANS TO MAINTAIN --

A. NO, I DO NOT KNOW THAT. KISSINGER

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DHAHRAN  
JERUSALEM  
KHARTOUM  
MANAMA  
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